



February 29, 2015

State of Connecticut General Assembly
Office of the House Clerk
ettestimony@cga.ct.gov
Subject: SB 286 Testimony

To whom it may concern:

I am contacting you today to provide testimony in support the PEGPETIA Fund being restored.

Prior to receiving our PEGPETIA Grant in June of 2015, Hartford Public Access Television (HPATV) was operating with out-dated equipment and technology which limited our productivity and the quality of our production of City Council Meetings, Board of Education Meetings and important community events. We did not have any working video cameras for our Volunteer Producers to use or editing facilities for them to complete their productions.

Thanks to the PEGPETIA Grant, we began rebuilding HPATV by installing a new IP driven broadcast Telvue Control Panel which has allowed us to store significantly more video files and begin to broadcast digitally. The new Telvue broadcast technology which works more efficiently, has greatly improved our work flow and allowed HPATV to implement video streaming online.

The Telvue Cloudcast allows us to feature high resolution Video On Demand on our website which allows for viewing of City Council Meetings, Board of Education Meetings and Public Access programming to a wider audience at the viewers convenience. As the Public Access station for the Capital City, it is important that our programming reaches beyond our borders and that we're reaching younger audiences who tend to rely on web based communication for news & information.

The Grant also provided new video production equipment for HPATV's 2 Studios and Control Rooms making it possible to produce higher quality programming to the benefit of Hartford residents. Many of these programs are broadcast live therefore having reliable state of the art equipment has energized our existing volunteer producers and has increased the number of new programs at HPATV. The new Tricaster switchers provide better green screen technology with expanded possibilities enhancing many programs which are making good use of that technology. Wireless microphones allow for musical groups to come into our studios and have their performances recorded more efficiently.

Our new Panasonic HD cameras in the studios and in the field allow us to record in HD with the

convenience of SD Memory Cards and allow us to capture a higher level of video quality. Having the 3 field cameras allowed us to obtain a grant from the Ensworth Foundation to begin the Stepping Stone program which employed free lance camera operators to document and broadcast many cultural and community events on HPATV in 2015 such as;

Monday Night Jazz Bushnell – **(12 Episodes)** July 6 – August 10

Latino Fest – August 9

Greater Hartford Puerto Rican Parade - June 7

Ray Gonzalez Latin Jazz & Salsa Festival - August 29

Senator Blumenthal Conference – August 27

Mayoral Candidate Debate – September 1

Goodwin Golf Course Before and After PSA – July 1

Keeney Park Remodel – September 27

Trinity Football – **(6 Episodes)** Oct. 5 – Dec. 1

Hartford Public Library Poetry – October 7

Latin Music Extravaganza at Infinity Music Hall **(3 Episodes)**

Veterans Day Parade – November 12

Hartford Steel Drum Symphony - November 19

Alliance for Community Media Conference – **(8 Episodes)** November 21

Renzulli School Concert – December 20

Hartford's Got Jazz – **(8 Episodes)** Nov 11 – Currently Producing Every Monday at Black Eyed Sally's

HPATV thanks the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) for their financial support which has allowed us to begin transforming HPATV into a state of the art community media resource center for free speech, community dialogue, cultural exchange and artistic expression.

If we do not restore the PEGPETIA Fund, HPATV will not be able to complete its restoration and other Public Access Stations will not be able to meet the local demand for quality community programming which is crucial to keeping residents informed on what is taking place within their local governments, boards of education and communities.

These services are even more important to the elderly and the physically challenged who are not able to make it to City Council Meetings, Board of Education Meetings or any of the many wonderful cultural events our region has to offer.

Sincerely,

Gil Martinez

Executive Director

Hartford Public Access Television, Inc.

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CC: HPATV Board of Directors